



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 16, 2003

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist 

RE: Site Inspection, Kennecott Utah Copper, Bingham Canyon Mine, M/035/002, Salt Lake County, Utah

Date of Inspection: September 16, 2003

Time of Inspection: about 1:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Conditions: Mostly cloudy, 70's

Participants: Doug Jensen and Paul Baker, DOGM

## Purpose of Inspection:

To check whether work had begun on stripping soils and removal of sludges from the South Jordan Evaporation Ponds.

## Observations:

We observed the ponds from a distance (Photo 1). Although it is not readily apparent in the photograph, we were able to distinguish scrapers, a trackhoe, haul trucks, and other earth moving equipment working in the sludge removal areas. The equipment was creating enough dust that it could be seen from several miles away.

A haul road has also been constructed from the sludge storage area to Copper Notch repository. The haul road crosses public highways in two locations (Photos 2 and 4). Photo 4 shows a loaded truck hauling material toward the Copper Notch area crossing the highway.

An area, within the area designated as the Copper Notch Repository, has been stripped of soil (Photo 3). It was not possible for us to see from our vantage point if any material from the sludge ponds had been placed in repository.

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Kennecott Utah Copper/Bingham Mine

M/035/002

Inspection Date: September 16, 2003; Report Date: September 17, 2003

### **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

The Division received Kennecott Land's latest proposal for the sludge removal on August 26, 2003 and has not approved the activities presently taking place. The issuance of a notice of noncompliance for initiating this project without Division approval should be considered. There are numerous concerns about how the project is being conducted without an approved plan.

I am not certain what methods are being used to control dust or whether the operation is in compliance with Air Quality regulations. The Division should contact Air Quality and ask about the dust control concern.

jb

cc: Paula Doughty, KUC

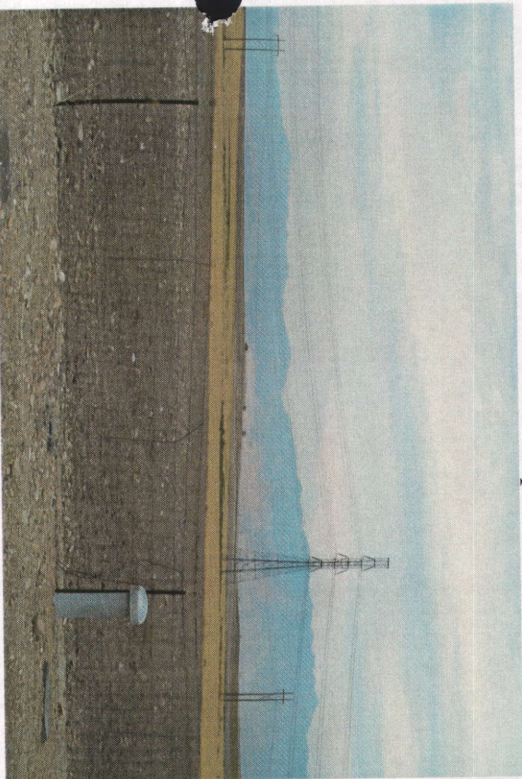
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**ATTACHMENT**  
**Photographs**

**M/035/002, Bingham Canyon Mine, Kennecott Utah Copper**

**Inspection Dated: September 16, 2003; Report Dated: September 17, 2003**



**Photo 1. Equipment operating on the South Jordan Evaporation Ponds.**



**Photo 2. The haul road leading toward Copper Notch.**



**Photo 3. The Copper Notch Repository is in the left center portion of this photograph. Notice that soil and vegetation have been stripped.**



**Photo 4. One of the haul road crossings over a public highway. The loaded truck is heading toward the Copper Notch area.**